

# Presentation Overview

**This page is for your information only. Not for (boring) public presentation.**

## Presentation

- Title: „Project Renaissance in the Year 2010“
- Speaker and Contact: Christoph Noack, Co-Lead User Experience Team, [christophnoack@openoffice.org](mailto:christophnoack@openoffice.org)
- Time and Location: Saturday, June 12<sup>th</sup> 2009, 3:00pm-3:30pm, LinuxTag 2010, Room „Berlin II“, Hall 7<sup>3</sup>

## Constraints and Assumptions

- Procedure: 25 min talk incl. 10 min live demo, 5 min discussion
- Target Audience: Private persons, consultants, small businesses who already know that OpenOffice.org exists



## Project Renaissance in the Year 2010

Christoph Noack  
Co-Lead User Experience Team  
LinuxTag 2010

# What to Expect

Project Renaissance in the Year 2010

## The Contents

- Get-Together
- Renaissance Retrospective
- Slide Layout Improvements
- Slide Sorter Improvements
- Better Defaults
- The Way To Go

## The Voice



# What is OpenOffice.org?

Get-Together

## The Open-Source-Project

- Initiated in the year 2000 by Sun Microsystems
- Over 7.1 million lines of code
- Over 65 million downloads per release

## The Community

- About 150 ... 250 million users, about 600 active contributors
- 100 language and 40 other projects (Marketing, QA, API, UX, ...)

## The Office Suite

- Applications: Writer, Calc, Impress, Draw, Base, ...
- Platforms: Microsoft Windows, Linux, Apple Mac OS X, Solaris

# Project Renaissance

Get-Together

project  
**Renaissance**

## Mission

“Create a  
**User Interface** so that  
OpenOffice.org becomes  
**the users' choice**  
not only out of **need**  
but also out of  
**desire**”

More information at:  
<http://wiki.services.openoffice.org/wiki/Renaissance>

OpenOffice.org

## Goals In A Nutshell

- Help users to find and use essential functionality more easily
- Help users to gain expertise quickly
- Help users to create eye-catching documents in less time

## Good To Know

- Who are our users?
- What are their tasks?
- How do they use the software?

# Design, Research, Evaluation

Get-Together



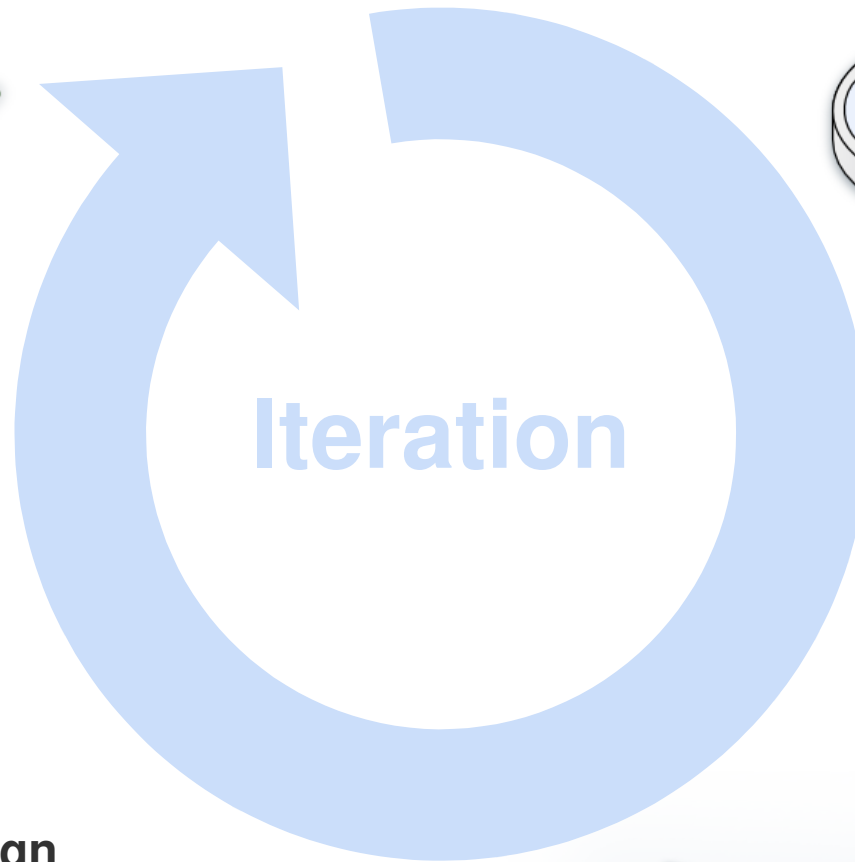
## Evaluation

Evaluate promising solutions.



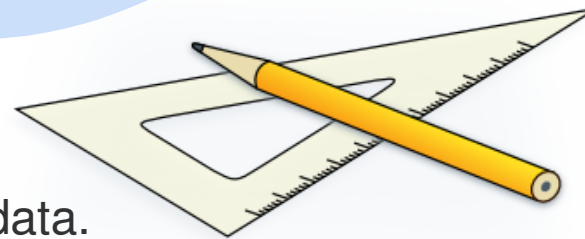
## Research

Know and understand OpenOffice.org users to better meet their needs.



## Design

Generate and accumulate design ideas to create prototypes based on valid data.



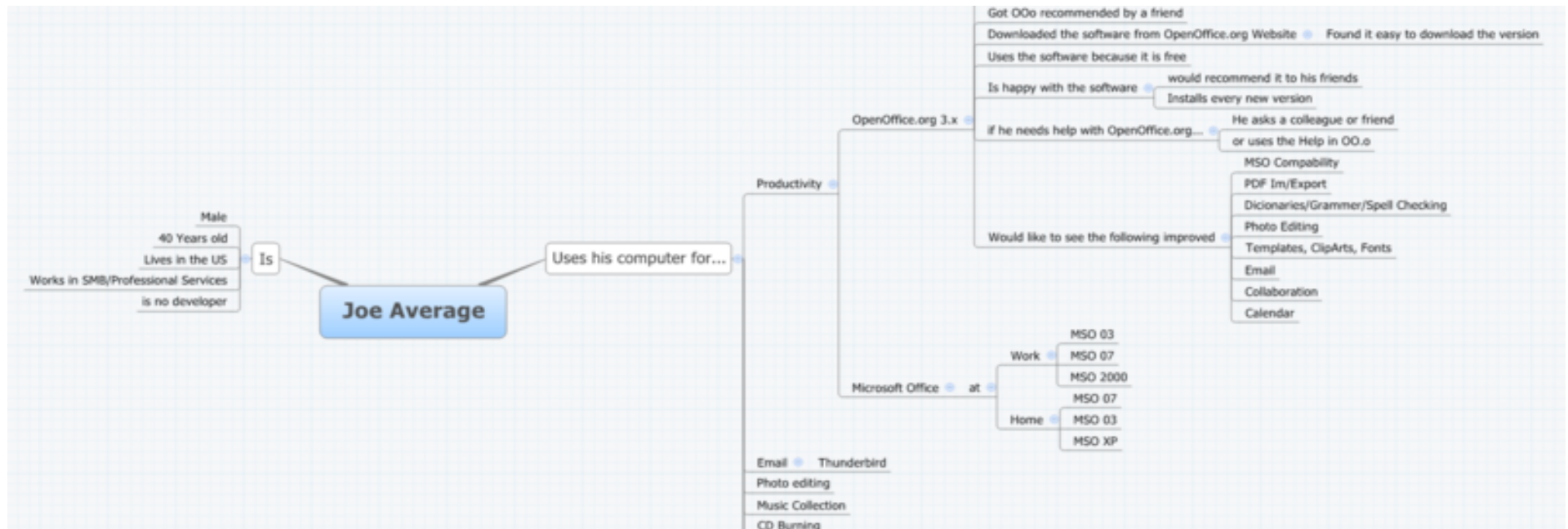


Renaissance Retrospective

# Meeting Joe Average

## Renaissance Retrospective

### OpenOffice.org User Surveys



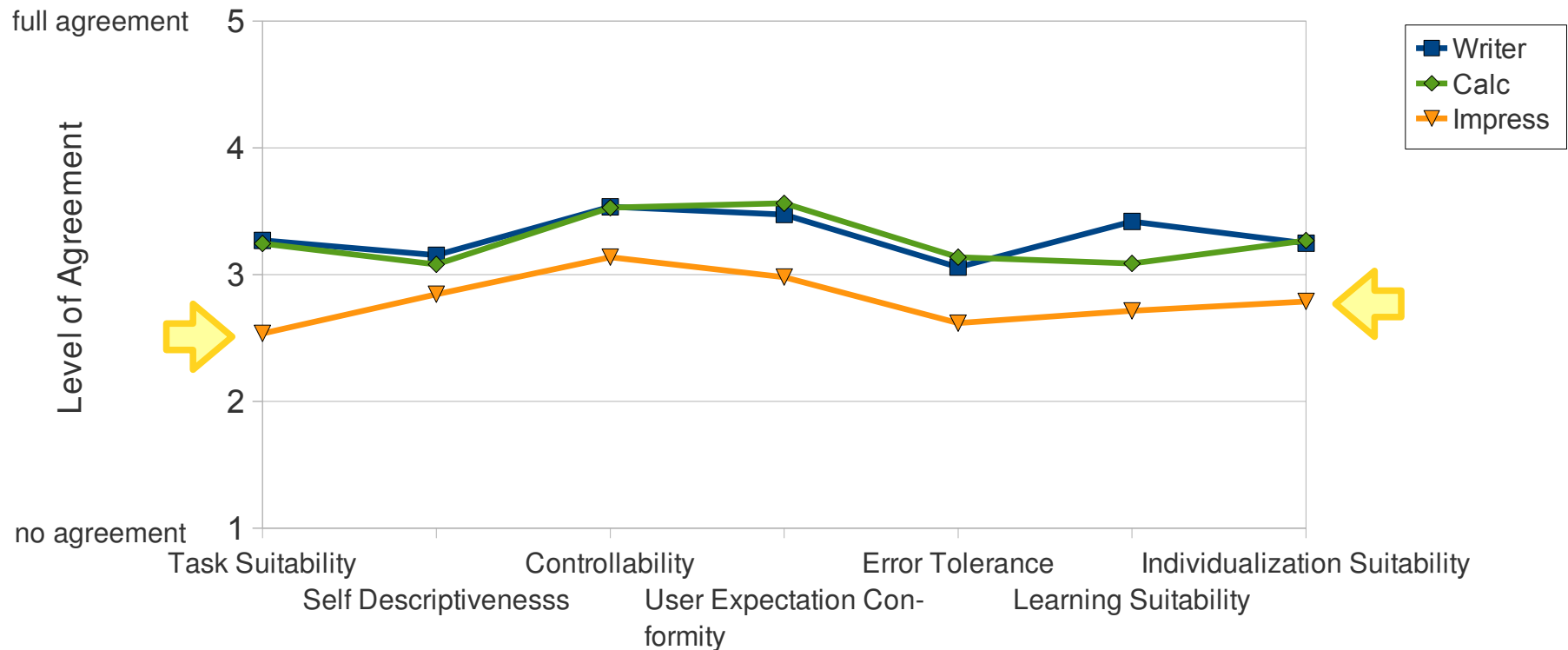
- Data: Impress is used by 51% of the web survey participants
- Comments: "... is very good and stable in comparison to ... but OpenOffice Impress is still too hard to use ..."



# That Not Impressive

## Renaissance Retrospective

### IsoMetrics Surveys (IsoMetrics-S)



- OpenOffice.org is rated mediocre according to dialog principles
- **Impress** is behind **Writer** and **Calc** → Improve Impress (first)!

# Renaissance Retrospective

**Values Normalized**  
100% = 59777 events

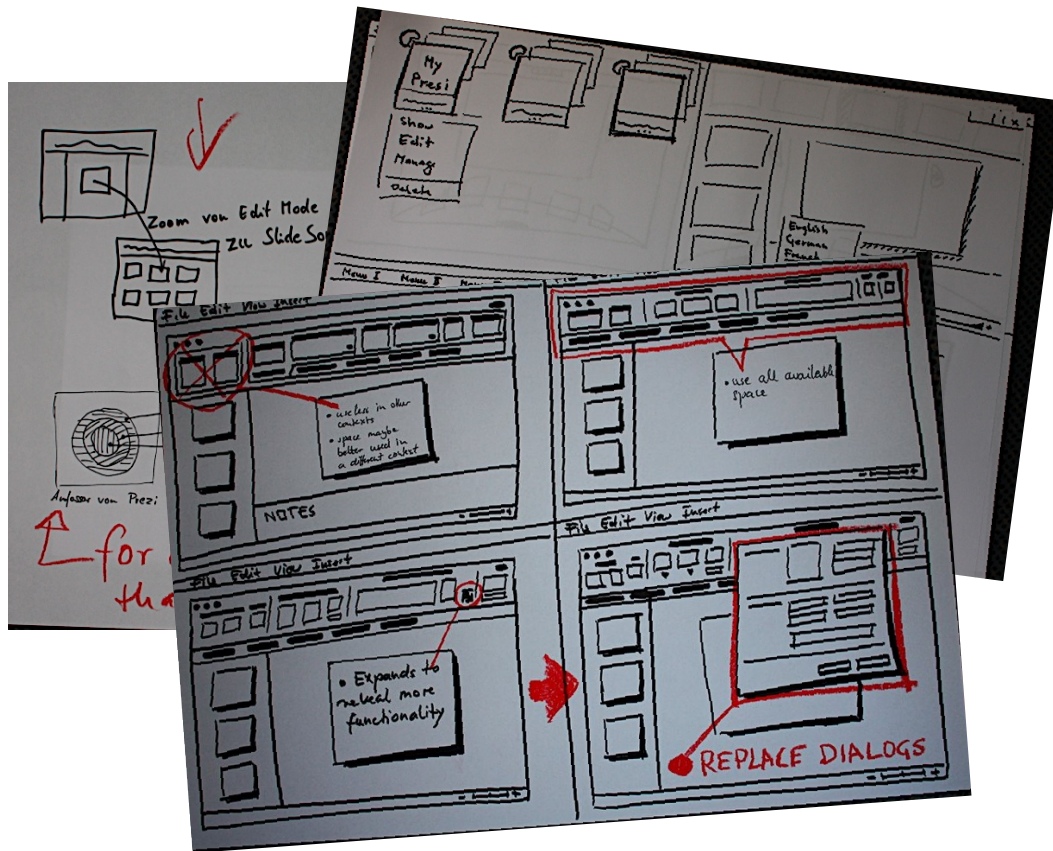
**Symbols**  
# = Rank (1 to 40)  
Σ = Sum of sub menu events  
? = Currently unknown



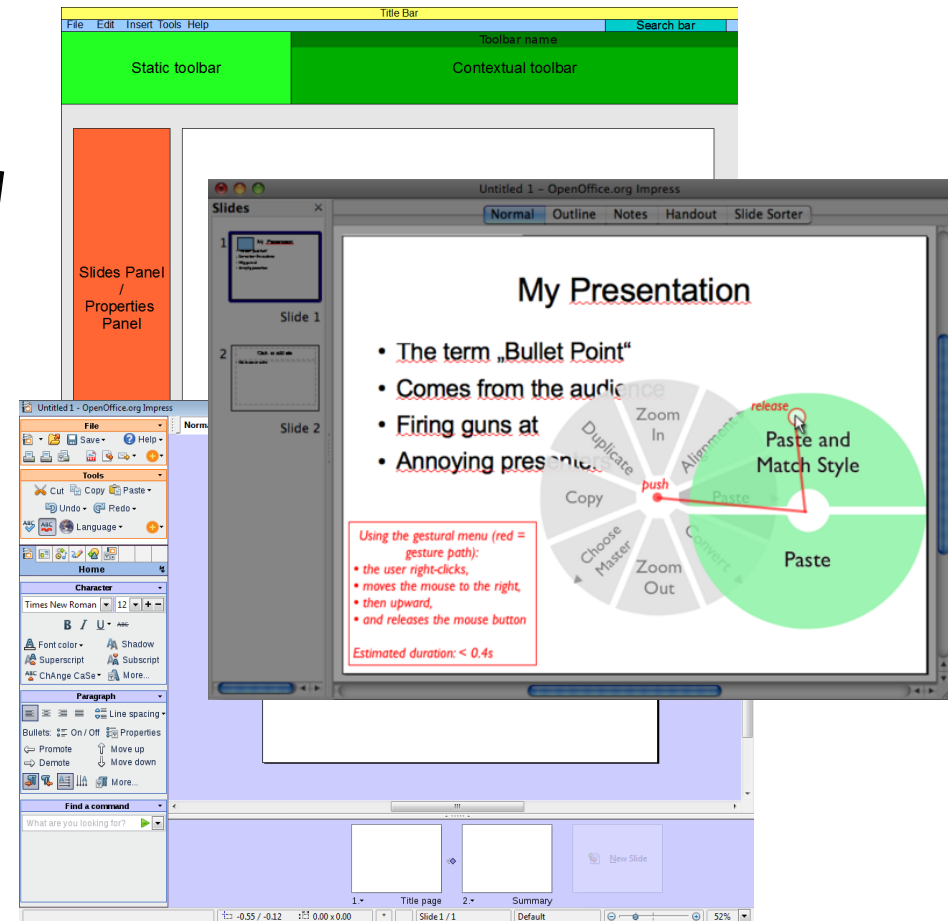
# Ideas, Ideas, Ideas

## Renaissance Retrospective

### Design Idea Collections



Source: Sun UX Team, <http://picasaweb.google.de/send.to.andreas>



Source: Design Proposal Collection “Accessing Functionality”

# Will It Really Work?

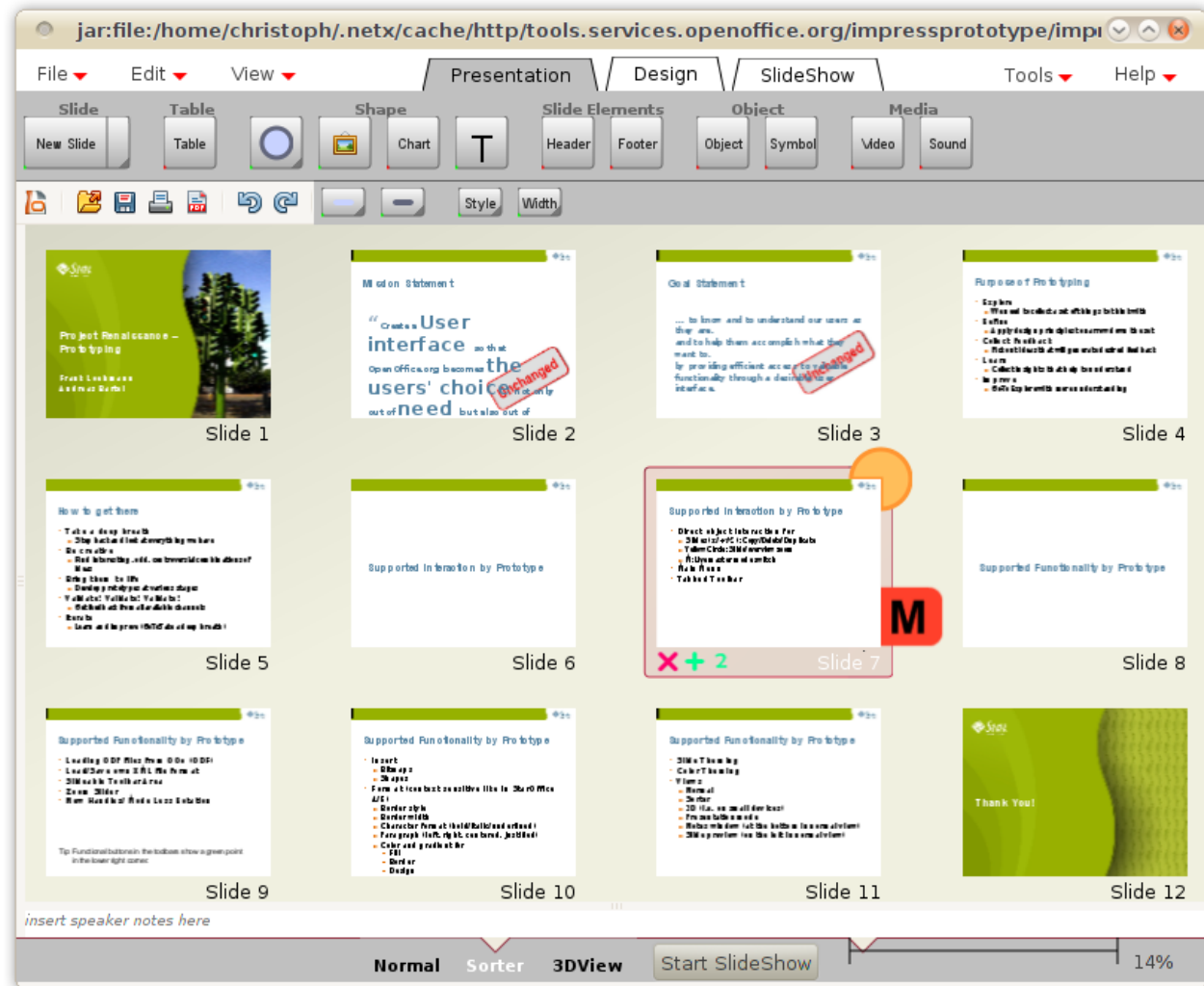
## Renaissance Retrospective

### Prototyping Phase

- Ideas easy to implement, easy to “throw away”
- Java Based Web Application

### And now?

How will the software finally look like?



Source: <http://wiki.services.openoffice.org/wiki/Renaissance:Prototyping>

# Will It Really Work?

Renaissance Retrospective

## Prototyping Phase

### New User Interface Warning



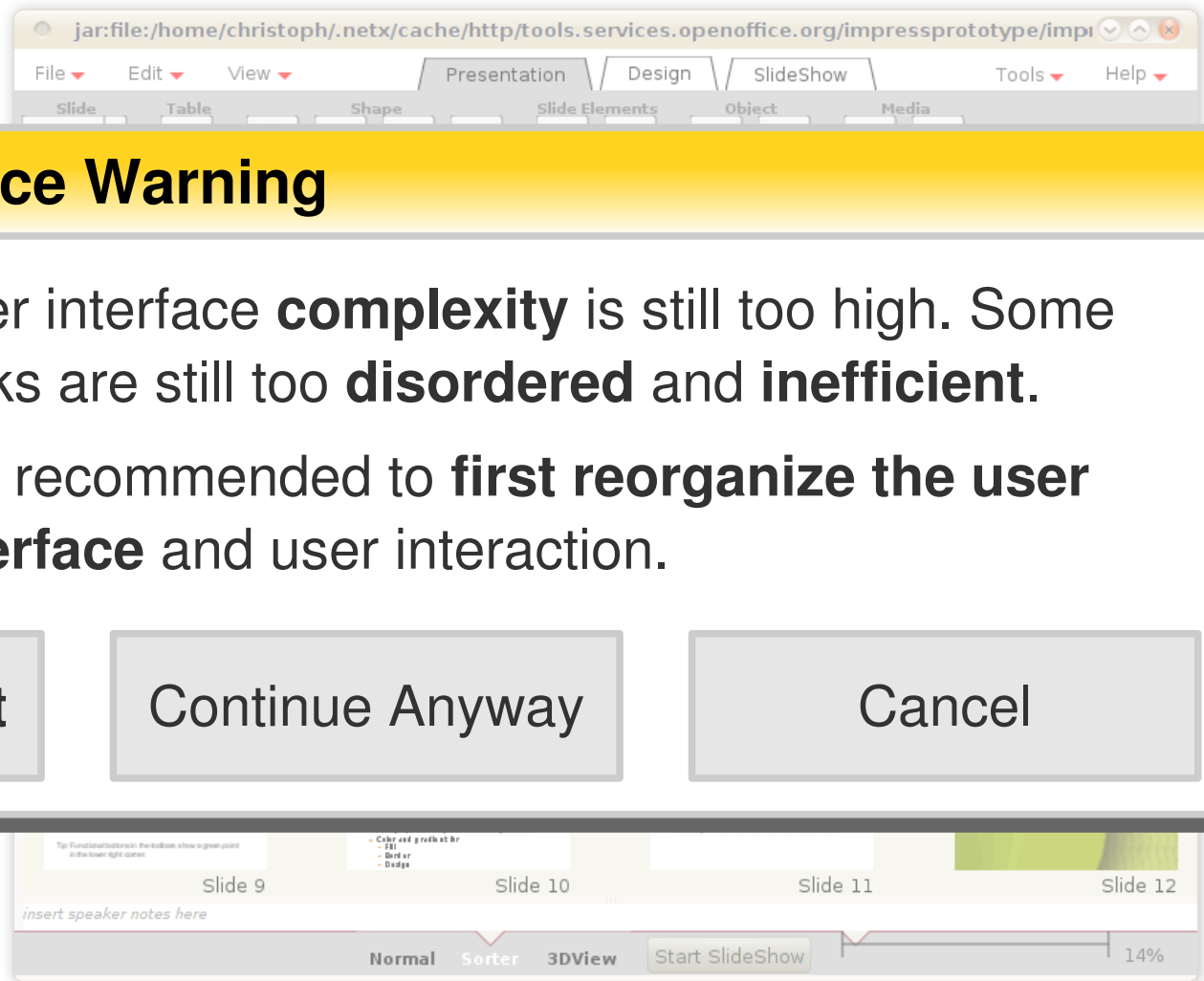
User interface **complexity** is still too high. Some tasks are still too **disordered** and **inefficient**.

It is recommended to **first reorganize the user interface** and user interaction.

Reorganize First

Continue Anyway

Cancel



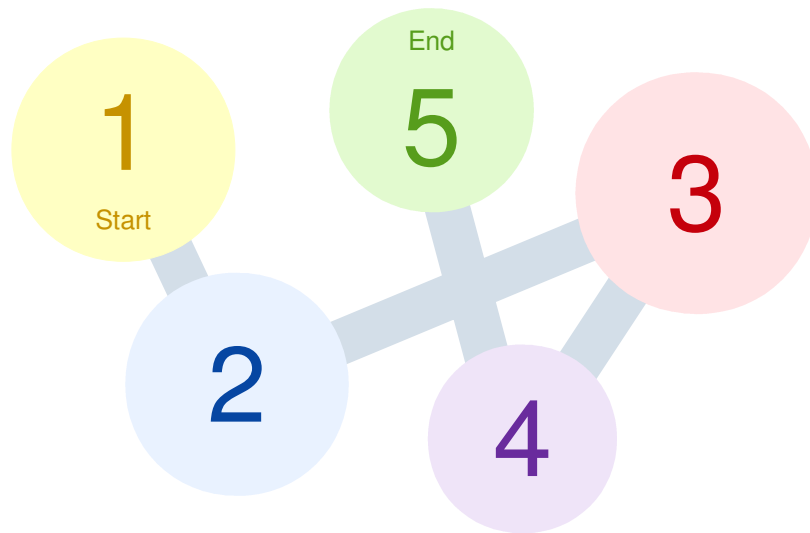
# Slide Layout Improvements





# User Interface and Interaction Design

## Slide Layout Improvements



VS.



## What is the “User Interface”?

- Much more than fancy visual design or button placement
- Requires careful interaction design

## Good Interaction Design

- Weights importance of each task (know your user, know their tasks)
- Reduces number of steps
- Makes things visual

**Conclusion:** Before touching the UI, we need “streamlined” workflows!

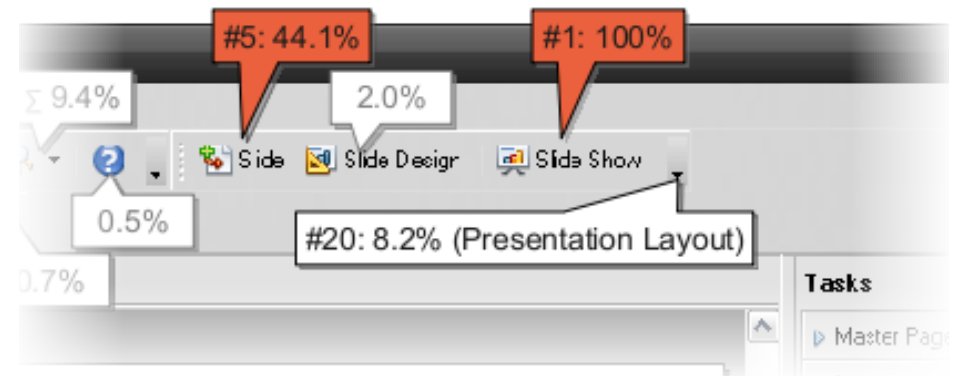


# Task Reorganization

## Slide Layout Improvements

### Task Importance

- “Insert Slide” is rank #5
- “Slide Layout” is rank #20 (manually added by users)



### Solution Ideas

- Combine “Insert Slide” and “Slide Layout” in a dropdown (see Prototype)
- Flexible presentation layouts



# Live Demonstration

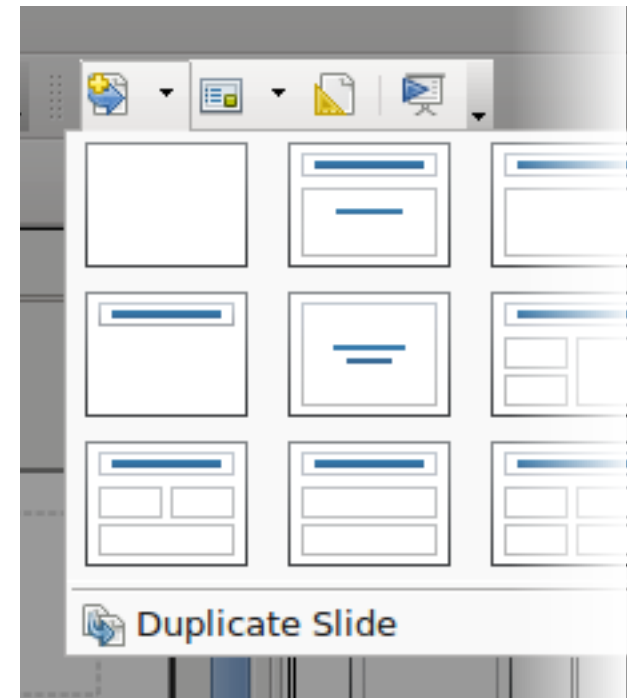
## Slide Layout Improvements

### Improvements Presented

- Reduced number of slide layout choices
- Direct selection of slide elements in slide
- Insert / change slide layouts via toolbar
- New visual design of the slide layout icons

### Status As Shown

Minor changes to come, cleanup required



Please note that the shown functionality is still not yet in the final product. Shown here is build CWS "renaissance 2", 2010-05-27

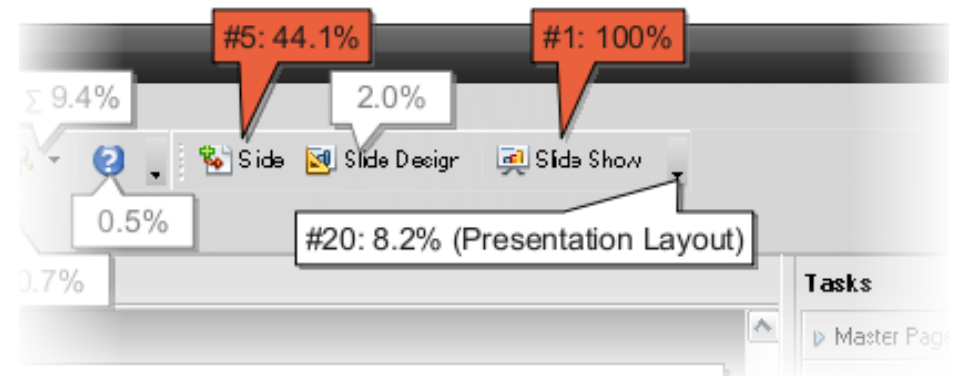
# Slide Sorter Improvements

# Task Reorganization

## Slide Sorter Improvements

### Task Importance

- “Slide Show” is rank #1
- Sorting and mixing slides is a very common task



### Solution Ideas

- Add context functions to slide (see Prototype)
- Rework slide sorter behavior



# Live Demonstration

## Slide Sorter Improvements

### Presented Improvements

- New overlay icons for the most important functions
- Improved drag-and-drop of slides
- Improved keyboard navigation
- New “linear” selection behavior
- New visual design for slide statuses

### Status As Shown

Nearly Finished



Please note that the shown functionality is still not yet in the final product. Shown here is build CWS “renaissance 1”, 2010-05-31

Better Defaults

# Initial OpenOffice.org Experience

## Better Defaults

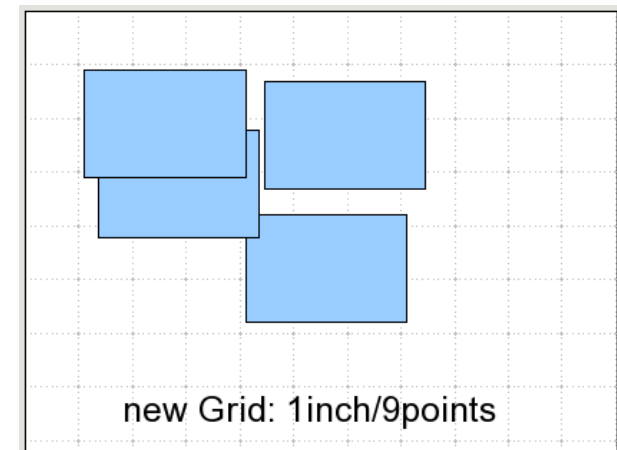
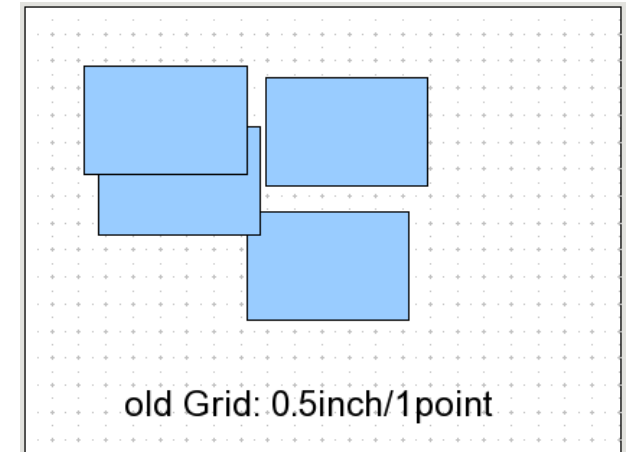
### Better Defaults

- Revisit default settings
- Don't add features → “Low Hanging Fruits”

### Idea Sources

- Issues: 10.000 analyzed feature issues
- Community: 100 community ideas
- Feedback: Blogs, mailing lists, colleagues, sales people, trainers, customers, ...
- Data: Usage tracking and user surveys

**Example:** Grid handling in Impress



Source:  
[http://wiki.services.openoffice.org/wiki/BetterDefaults\\_GridHandling\\_workout](http://wiki.services.openoffice.org/wiki/BetterDefaults_GridHandling_workout)

# Current Steps

## Better Defaults

### Current Steps

- Feedback is gathered on changed grid handling
- 30 ideas will be implemented in manageable steps
- Ideas are collected for other OpenOffice.org applications

### Want a Test Drive?

You may try the first changes for yourself!

		of the table, because the table has spacing 0cm. And if you do not use borders the spacing is to small too, because the style <i>Table contents</i> has below spacing 0cm too.	
Uncheck transparency warning	All	Uncheck transparency warning in Tools > Options. Modern PCs are fast enough to calculate transparency. So most of the users no longer need this warning.	Regina
change default color in form wizard	Database	the default background color of an default form document, created by the form wizard, is anything like orang -> this is a bad default and looks unprofessional => change it in anything common like 'light gray'	MSC
switch off impress wizard	Impress	looks old fashioned, is redundant and annoying	WG
Default Clipboard Format for vector graphics	All except Draw	If someone paste a vector graphic into a document, he normally doesn't intend to edit it there, but most probably he needs to resize it. Unfortunately scaling of embedded Draw graphics doesn't work, because text will not scaled proper. Until this work, the user must use Paste Special->As GDI-Metafile. I think GDI-Metafile should be the default here.	Jörg
Changing default font	Impress & Draw	<a href="#">Issue 70585</a> It should be possible to change the overall default font for text (not the GUI) in Impress permanently, using one centralized setting, for example Options -> Openoffice.org -> fonts -> Change default font or somewhere similar. This is especially a problem when working with asian languages. I know you can work around the problem using templates, but it is neither quick, nor is it likely to appear obvious to the average user.	Clu
Change default pen color from neon green	Impress	<a href="#">Issue 47990</a> As described in BUG 10922 the neon green color of the pen used to draw on a presentation is very difficult to see for students in a classroom, and the color is hard coded into OOo. I would like to see the default changed to perhaps black or red, as they are much easier colors to see. BUG 10922 is still a very good idea, but I filed this report to request a simple change of the default color, which should be much easier than what BUG 10922 is requesting. A slightly more ambitious, but still not difficult, would be to read the color value from a file or some such, instead of hard coding it in the OOo source. p.s. available after .. menu: slide show / slide show settings & check 'mouse pointer as pen' & starting a presentation	Clu

Source: [http://wiki.services.openoffice.org/wiki/User\\_Experience/Improving\\_OOo\\_Default\\_Settings](http://wiki.services.openoffice.org/wiki/User_Experience/Improving_OOo_Default_Settings)

Instructions and configuration file: [http://wiki.services.openoffice.org/wiki/BetterDefaults\\_GridHandling\\_workout](http://wiki.services.openoffice.org/wiki/BetterDefaults_GridHandling_workout)

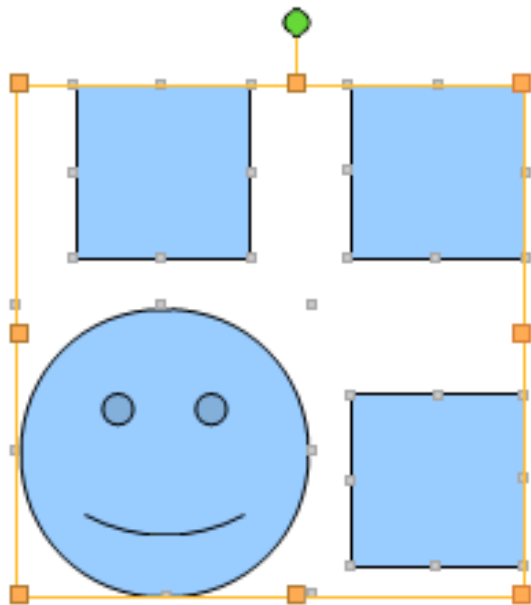


The Way To Go

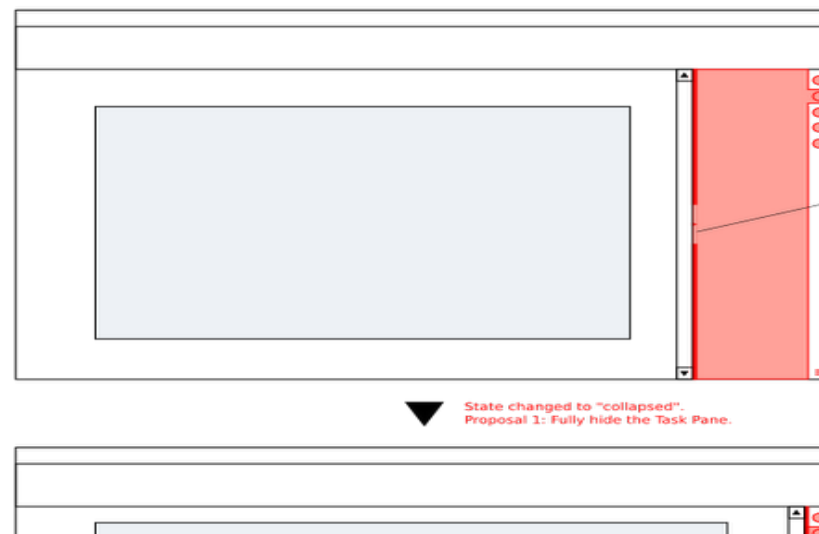
# Future Ideas

## The Way To Go

New ideas to work on in the future ... let's see!



Object Selection



State changed to "collapsed".  
Proposal 1: Fully hide the Task Pane.

The wireframe graphic on the left shows the Impress application window and the Task Pane in expanded state.

Tabs for changing the Task Pane Pages (please note that these should be larger to avoid being mixed up with the standard toolbar icons).

Separator for changing between expanded/collapsed state. It should be more visible.

Placeholder for Task Pane Options Menu (e.g. similar to current toolbar drop-down menus).

Proposal 1, basic idea: The Task Pane content is fully hidden except the tabs. A click on the tab buttons on the right expands the Task Pane again.

Advantage: Easy realization

Task Pane Behavior

Source "Object Selection": [http://specs.openoffice.org/renaissance/object\\_selection\\_positioning\\_and\\_modification.odt](http://specs.openoffice.org/renaissance/object_selection_positioning_and_modification.odt)

Source "Task Pane Behavior": <http://ux.openoffice.org.blogspot.com/2010/01/ux-meeting-in-hamburg-day-two.html>

# Take-Away

## The Way To Go

- Renaissance is a **long-term approach**
- Renaissance aims to improve the **user interaction and user interface**
- Decisions are **based on research** and worked out very carefully
- First small changes to **appear in the next release** of OpenOffice.org
- There are **many more ideas** to make OpenOffice.org more kicking!



# project *Renaissance*

**Thank You! Any Questions?**

Wiki <http://wiki.services.openoffice.org/wiki/Renaissance>

IRC [#ux.openoffice.org](#) on [irc.freenode.net](#)  
Weekly status meeting, each Monday 4:00pm

Mail [discuss@ux.openoffice.org](mailto:discuss@ux.openoffice.org) User Experience Mailing List

Thanks to the whole OpenOffice.org Community for their important input to both this presentation and the Project Renaissance. Special thanks are dedicated to Elizabeth Matthis, Frank Loehmann, Andreas Bartel, Christoph Lukasiak, the Impress and Visual Design development team!

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